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OIL PRICING PROCESS ANALYZED

London 8 DAYS IN English 18 Apr 81 pp 36,35

[Article by Nigel Ash]

[Text]

Kuwait has stopped supplying oil to customers who refuse to pay a premium above its official price of \$35.50 a barrel. The motivation, explains NIGEL ASH, is Kuwait's feeling that Saudi Arabia is undermining Opec's pricing structure.

KUWAIT'S UNPOPULARITY of oil supplies to western oil companies who refused to pay the required premium was an indirect challenge to Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabia's pricing and production policy. By suspending the contracted liftings of British Petroleum, Royal Dutch/Shell, Gulf Oil and the Japanese company Idemitsu, Kuwait (the Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa al Sabah who retained the oil portfolio in the new government formed on 8 March) was spotlighting the weakened marketing position into which most Opec members have been forced, almost entirely as a result of Saudi Arabian high production and low posted prices.

The surprise is that this indirect protest against Saudi policy should have come from oil gluttons, Kuwait. Thanks to its great wealth and limited needs, the sheikhdom is quite favourably placed to withstand the depression in weakening oil prices.

In part the confrontation between the Kuwaitis and the oil companies has been forced by simple copy last month of a batch of lifting contracts. In the past year Kuwaiti production had been running at an average of 1.5m bbl. The major lifters was

Shell, which took 225,000 bbl some 100,000 bbl of which carried a premium of \$1.50. The rest was sold at the official Kuwaiti posted price of \$35.50 a barrel.

Gulf Oil had been taking 75,000 bbl at the posted price. In April 1980 they turned down an offer of a further 75,000 bbl carrying the \$1.50 premium. BP, however, did take half of their 150,000 bbl at the premium price, and their premium contract ran out on 31 March. However the company still has 18 months of a 30-month non-premium lifting to run.

It is this contract which, BP claim, the Kuwaitis are trying to rewrite to include a new premium. Exact details of this fresh charge are not clear, but it is thought to be around \$2.50. BP and the other companies refused to pay and on 31 March the Kuwaitis cut off supplies. Also, 8 Days has noted, they trimmed back their production by around 400,000 bbl.

Oil company negotiators flew to Kuwait for talks but one oil trader was quoted as saying: 'I don't think the companies are going to give in, nor will the Kuwaitis.' Another oil man commented: 'Normally calm people are getting very agitated.'

Initially the Saudis have not been acting without careful thought. In mid-March oil men were already speculating that some sort of information was on the way. A 100,000 b/d contract signed at that time with the South Chinese allowed for a premium of only \$4 a barrel.

A week later the Qatari tried to require a 20 b/d premium for shipments of Dakhn oil crude (going a price of \$45.92) from a group of small Japanese companies. Unlike the South Koreans, the Japanese refused to accept the premium and decided to buy from Qatar oil until the end of May.

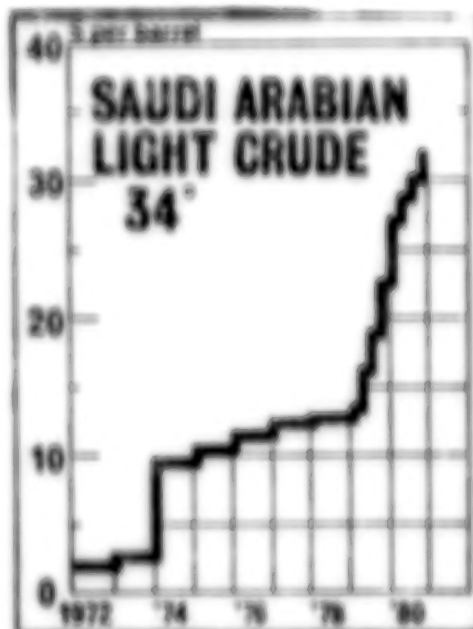
The Japanese have thought that their success with the South Koreans would justify a premium — albeit a lower one — but the country's major exporters gave several indications that they would not accept premiums of any size. So why did the Saudis price oil? For months have been the one baffle in Saudi Arabia's long campaign for a unified price structure.

An oil analyst told *Asahi*: "The Saudis are wise enough not to raise their posted price unilaterally before the 26 May Opec summit in Geneva. They would be accused of hoarding funds. At the moment, whether other Opec members like it or not, the Saudis, because they are producing over 21 per cent of the organization's oil, are still very much in the driving seat."

The Saudi position has come in for close scrutiny recently, in particular by Douglas Feith, general counsel to the Washington Center for International Security. Last month in the *Wall Street Journal*, Feith, in a column-headed analysis, assembled recent quotes from Yamani and others warning that the Saudis could raise their prices and cut back production by up to half the present 10.5m b/d.

Feith quotes Yamani as complaining that his country had received no sign of appreciation for their precious oil supplies to the industrialised world. Feith also includes the comment from the US ambassador to Saudi Arabia, John West:

"The Saudis are producing double the amount of oil they need for their own national economy. If they cut their production to 4.5m b/d they could generate all the money they need for their Five Year



Plan.

Yamani is also quoted as saying: "For oil production of 10.5m b/d when the price would be \$50 a barrel would increase our revenue and conserve our resources. Don't take the Saudis for granted."

Using these figures, Feith calculates that, at 10m b/d, the daily Saudi income was \$500m. On the other hand, if the price were raised to \$50 a barrel and production lowered to 5m b/d, their income would be only \$150m — at a time of weak oil prices.

Next he turns his attention to Saudi Arabia's fiscal needs, contending that the kingdom has always financed its development directly from oil income. He maintains that oil paid for Saudi Arabia's 1979 budget of \$7.5bn. He quotes official Saudi figures admitting that in 1980 some budget allocations were

over-run by as much as 45 per cent.

In fiscal 1977-78, Riyadh ran up a fiscal deficit of over 54 rdn. Each summer. The following year it went to 54 rdn. The Saudis drew down foreign assets approximately 10 per cent, by more than 9rdn. Under these circumstances, a Saudi production cut from 10m to 5m b/d would cut revenues in half, from the current 61.20bn a year to around 30rdn. But official Saudi spending runs at the rate of 50rdn a year and thereby hangs a grim tale for the Saudi regime . . .

Saudi Arabia produces and sells as much oil as it can find customers for at current prices. It does so because its rulers enjoy wealth and wish to preserve their rule. Whether those rulers are pro-western, "friendly" or pleased with any or all of the elements of US foreign policy is an issue "linked" to Saudi oil policy only in diplomatic rhetoric.

CSO: 4820/308

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ABC'S ASSETS GROW--An increase of 33 per cent in assets in the first three months of this year was announced by the Arab Banking Corporation (ABC). Assets on 31 March stood at \$2.6bn, against \$1.95bn at the end of last year, while the balance sheet total amounted to \$3.2bn. The last figure excludes the additional \$375m in shareholders' capital which was called up on 1 April, to bring the total paid-up capital to \$750m. Deposits also grew by 33 per cent, from \$1.5bn at the end of 1980 to \$2bn at the end of March. But the loan and bond portfolio showed an increase of 75 per cent. In 1980, ABC managed or lead-managed 21 major syndicated loans, worth \$4.56bn, and co-managed bond issues totalling \$230m. [Text] [London 8 DAYS in English 10 Apr 81 p 38]

CSO: 4820/308

ISLAMIC AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE CONTRIBUTION TO SUDAN--The Muslim World League has offered SR 1.5 million as a contribution for a project to print a million copies of the Koran and for the completion of the establishment of a number of mosques. In addition \$250,000 is being granted for the establishment of 10 Islamic centers in different parts of the Sudan. It was mentioned by Sheikh Muhammed Safwat al-Saqa, deputy director of the league, that each of these centers will consist of a school for teaching the Holy Koran, a mosque, and a clinic in addition to the necessary facilities. [Text] [Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 5 Apr 81 p 3]

CSO: 4802/684

REVOLUTION GUARDS STATE POSITION ON SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Apr 81 p 3

[Text]

The world of Islam is currently faced with various types of interventions of military, political, cultural and economical nature by the Superpowers.

For long years Moslems, under the plundering wheels of the Imperialism, could not administer their Islamic countries based on the criteria of maktab and religion.

Such a rule was and is known to be the only way of a total and definite destruction of the Eastern and Western world orders.

The TEHRAN TIMES has centered on intimating to its readers and for the knowledge of the people the fight of the Moslem nations' liberation movements with a covering history.

This newspaper will further provide you with "reasons of the defeats and victories of the liberating movements," and "proposals and solutions for the combatant organizations throughout the world in their independent path."

The Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, which always took major steps to help the world liberation movements, naturally has access to the most accurate information and guidance on these movements and revolutions.

Upon our request, the Revolutionary Guards will periodically publish these analysis and assessments through the TEHRAN TIMES.

While thanking our brothers, the Revolutionary Guards who, are ever-keeping their lives in danger, we invite all Moslem brothers throughout the world, who are subjected to oppression, to study these conclusions.

With the hope of establishing a united government of Islam in the world.

EDITORIAL BOARD OF
TEHRAN TIMES

POVERTY AND
UNEMPLOYMENT
WEAKNESS OF
CULTURE
CORRUPT AND ANTI-
HUMAN SYSTEMS
COLONIALIST
INTERESTS OF THE
SOVIET UNION
STRATEGICAL
IMPORTANCE OF THE
REGION

In Afghanistan, neither there was capitalistic system with important factories or workshops for a workers revolution in the name of Proletariat Dictatorship to place our Afghanistan as a feudalistic country with the masters and slaves in order for a rapid farmers revolution to come about.

Therefore, in a Moslem nation with extreme religious fanaticism, how could one insignificant minority of a

Communist and anti-Islamic nature dare to communicate its existence?

And what was the reason that despite the Moslem people with that history of anti-colonialism, love for their nation, and with a spirit deadly against foreign interventions, could launch a coup with the direct support of the Soviet Union?

And, finally, the result of the sinister HAFSURI coup was that it turned the Islamic country of Afghanistan into a cut-throat House of Massacre and merciless murders of Moslems at the hands of the colonialist Eastern Superpower.

What follows hereunder depicting the 5 above stipulated motivations of this barbaric coup which still holds good its grounds could give an idea to attempt to find answers to those questions:

1. POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Almost an absolute majority of the Afghan people were tired and agitative against the domineering giant of poverty that resulted out of unfair distribution of wealth and lack of adequate income and employment.

And a quick and short analysis of the circumstances during the former Afghan regimes could lead one to believe that Afghanistan's Moslem nation was ripe for

colonialist domination of China, Russia and — just for domination of these severe living conditions.

The majority was on frustrating but unrewarding hunt to get hold of a piece of dry bread for their families. The people felt impotent to meet their basic needs.

Naturally, the empty and dreamy promises of socialism emerged as the only hope and source of joy for the Afghan people unaware of the fact that this Hellish Fire of Proletariat Dictatorship will crush all possibilities of growth and freedom of the people.

The Afghan people did not know that the only way to liberate themselves of their hopeless circumstances was to fight for restoration of Islam and to undertake implementations based on Islamic orders.

These deprived people did not know that creation of a just system was possible under the wing of enlightening Islamic orders. Not any other system.

2. WEAKNESS OF CULTURE

One of the most basic elements for ensuring the livingness and life of one society or a nation is its culture.

A nation which is devoid of or poor in culture contains a readiness for acceptance of any deprivation.

Afghanistan, from the cultural viewpoint, was very weak and 95 per cent of Afghan society lives in deprivation of culture and illiteracy.

And this in itself could be an important factor for easing acceptance of colonialism in various aspects.

Even in early times, Islamic movements were scarce or non-existent. Islam played little or no role due to domination of poisonous propaganda of Eastern and Western culprits.

The clergy, who are the real guards of Islamic boundaries, continued to remain impotent, sad and pessimistic and could not therefore, do anything in a positive framework.

3. CORRUPT AND ANTI-HUMAN SYSTEMS

When the rule of fascist, anti-national and anti-Islamic systems prolonged in Afghanistan and the society was coming around to the idea of effecting a change in these systems, and the anti-government activities were being heightened — Daud Khan promptly carried through the sudden coup d'etat in 1957.

Daud announced having brought the coup d'etat and crammed it under an envelop of "democracy".

relying on private donors to participate in developing these projects. It was
also clear the private sector was not interested in emergency projects. I could
imagine that if possible, it would prove that all the these projects lay
in the hands of private and develop staff members.

[illegible]

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[illegible]

On January 21, 1964, the subject was interviewed by the author and the following information was obtained: The subject was born on January 21, 1928, at [redacted] and is currently residing at [redacted]. He is a single man and is currently unemployed. He has a high school education and has worked for the [redacted] for the past [redacted] years. He has no other sources of income and is currently living on [redacted].

[illegible][illegible]

a resulting loss of productivity and consequently the piling up of debts. This all causes it to be inefficient in running its machinery and equipment and in operating its productive capacity or completing new projects. When it borrows at a high rate of interest, it realizes a loss and does almost to the utmost stretch of the financing structure and deficient liquidity. The third problem is prices and subsidies. This is related to fiscal policy and the whole domestic economy and needs a 'symposium' by itself, since it is connected to means and an expanding volume of output, which have an effect on the competition of costs. Fourth, unequal competition. If it is said that exemptions are restricted to taxes as far as foreign investment and private sector liberalization implicate us, that is not bad when they represent real productive capacity and constitute a pillar of the national economy, but the fact is that most of the projects are for consumption or services, and we cannot determine which of them will remain after 5 years of exemptions. It is an exemption, an aid against exemptions, but the danger comes under the years of exemption end! One should realize that these exemptions are not just for taxes but also permit the importation of fully-manufactured goods from abroad, which is a problem for the public sector, which produces the same goods! It is here that the unequal competition comes in, although it is necessary to coordinate the two sectors within the context of the government development plan. In the absence of coordination, investment projects which have equivalent zero prices. Finally, the problem of customs: these are not just revenues, but are a means, like indirect taxes, to support the domestic economy. Therefore, it is necessary to give every facility and exemption for the importation of complete plants and raw materials, and to make these greater than the facilities for the importation of semi-processed or fully-manufactured goods, in order to encourage the importation of factories and develop domestic production. Then why are customs and duties exempted while similar things are produced in Egypt? There are other examples which require that customs exemptions not be given for commodities produced locally.

Eng. Fu'ad Abu Zaghleh: I am talking from the position of practical experience. I emphasize the need to develop public sector unit management and liberate it from all restrictions, because management is the main element in the success of economic units.

As a specific example, in the company I manage, Iron and Steel, there are 20,000 people working with complex technology in three shifts; therefore it must be managed not by ordinary or government methods but rather by up-to-date developed methods. Therefore, we have sought to reorganize the company on new bases and have set up an information center, because we cannot manage a company like this when I cannot obtain the information we want for 2 or 3 days; this has an effect on the soundness and validity of decision. Then we have decided to give authority to the managers of the seven sections in the company. At the start, after much insistence, the heads of the sections were promoted to Exceptional Grade, like me, each of them becoming an official with full responsibilities for his section; that is, it became the dearest thing to seven companies in one.

We then decided to give work bonuses, but were taken aback by Law 83 and the amendments to it. This is a very bad, harmful law because it gives benefits to non-productive workers and raises their wages, when in fact they should be terminated! The execution of this law cost me 1 million pounds without returns! This kind of

law, and others in the employment and labor bills, are suppressing the public will when it ought to be protected. Just from our company, 2,000 engineers and technicians who have top expertise have left and are now in charge of establishing their firms in Arab countries. They have left and we are now suffering from a deficit in human staffs. I can give other examples of bad laws. A few days ago, an oversight caused a cutter that cost 100,000 pounds to be broken, and when we referred to the law we found that it stipulated that the board of directors had to meet to examine his suspension! However, I took the initiative myself and decided to suspend him from the job. Is this reasonable? The law is at the service of progress, and we therefore must give management an opportunity to act in an advanced way for the sake of the job. Finally, this is the third time I am saying this, the problems are well known, the solutions to them are well known, but there are no stands!

How Can We Correct the Negative Aspects?

Dr Sulayman Nur-al-Din: The economic sector's interest in the subject of the public sector is genuine and essential, because it is concerned to provide the suitable climate for production to take off and increase, resulting in profits which can be re-invested in development, increase production and raise development rates. The fact is that I have not gone through experience in the field, therefore will not talk in detail, but there is a basic common ground which is "the public sector was created by republican decree." Since that was a political decision, the sector therefore cannot develop by republican decree! Rather, it must receive its share of study. Then the public sector has had its achievements, which cannot be ignored, and it would be folly for us to think about destroying it. It must remain, because it is a pillar and will continue to be a pillar. It is true that there are negative features which must be remedied, but the important thing is, what approach to take? One view propounds a remedy at the project level, in the sense of dealing with a difficult projects so that we can investigate their condition, their faults, and different ways of rectifying them; another view considers it appropriate to examine the philosophy of the public sector in its entirety to arrive at the formulation of a new philosophy which will govern it, including the solution of the problems which have been raised here. In spite of both, we should not forget that we are in a transitional stage: the public sector began in a stage of materialistic or socialist planning which holds that production must be guided to provide people's requirements; it would have been possible for this method to succeed, as it has succeeded in east Germany, for example, and other places, except that application here was marred by many shortcomings. Finally, we started thinking, and thought sincerely, truthfully and honestly, about the need to encourage the private sector and to open up to the world, and projects began to appear which were subjected to the theory of the "market economy" governing the price element. So how can one reconcile this with our constitution, which stipulates democratic socialism, that is, the provision of the people's requirements? If we leave it up to market forces alone to determine prices, people will be harmed and no one will be able to tolerate this. So it is necessary for us to arrive at a suitable formula. In my opinion, it is necessary to restore the effectiveness of the "price agency" which was established some time ago. It must embark on its task of setting prices on the basis of costs plus a reasonable profit. In addition, I consider that to reform the public sector we should jointly apply the two theories for developing it. We should re-examine the philosophy which governs it and at the same time we should discuss the state of each "declining"

company in isolation, in order to remedy it. A careful price study should be made and after that the type of subsidy, and how it will be made, should be determined. For example, it is not reasonable for the raw materials in any project to remain subsidized, among these materials are heavy fuel oil, which sells for 7.5 pounds a ton while its world price is more than 140 tons!

Developing management is a very basic thing. We succeeded for the first time in the insurance sector, where the People's Assembly agreed to liberate its companies from repressive laws and give it freedom of movement. We are trying to create the suitable climate in which the public sector can move freely, and the honest private sector should also be active, since if it is not committed it will devour the public sector!

Participating in the Symposium

Dr Sulayman Dur-al-Din, minister of state for economy; Counsellor Mahmud Muhammad Fahmi, chairman of the Money Market Authority; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, director of the National Planning Institute; Dr 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Banna, economic consultant; Dr 'Adil 'Izz, head of the Administrative Development Institute; Eng Fu'ed Abu Zaghieh, chairman of the board of directors of the Iron and Steel Company; 'Ali' Khalil, undersecretary of the Investment Authority; Dr Salib Butrus, economic expert; Dr Faruq Shaquwayri, Ihab Mustafa, a lawyer; Eng Mahmud Hilmi Zaki, project manager with al-Nasr Automobile Company; and, for AL-AHRAM, Mahmud Mured.

[20 Feb 81 p 12]

[Text] In the first part, which we published last Friday, the discussion stopped at an important point, where the ministry of state for the economy asserted that if we created a suitable atmosphere in which foreign investment and private sector projects could operate, it would be necessary that they be honest because if they were not committed they would devour the public sector! So how can one bring about the equation with its four components - the public sector, which is to be preserved and developed, investors and capital, local or foreign, which are to be encouraged, the domestic economy, so that rates of development and production can rise, and the Egyptian consumer, through reasonable prices so that he will not be crushed by the millstone of competition?

Inside this quadrilateral body, the conversation waxed heatedly, supported with evidence and figures in an intense fashion which it is difficult to summarize again now. Thus we will immediately proceed with the second part:

Dr Salib Butrus: The fact is that the public sector contains companies which ought not to have been subordinate to it because they are not dominant industries, such as candy companies and retail firms! Therefore the real problem, in my opinion, is to rid the sector of the likes of these companies, and this should not be considered the sale or liquidation of the sector but a solution to the problem of "liquidity" which it is suffering from, since it can obtain funds as a result of the sale. It is wrong for the public sector to have cookie and chocolate companies and sell pepper and cummin!

Then I demand that the system of public sector management be liberated so that it can obtain full powers, including the freedom to use part of the profits for replacement, renovation and investments. After that, there remains a basic issue, to accountability: who will hold the public sector companies to account? Who will subject them to questioning if we liberate them from restrictions, bills and red tape? It is true that there is parliamentary questioning, but that is political and is not enough by itself. On this subject, there also is the issue of accurate data and information which must be made available and provided. Once again we look to the need to rid the public sector of companies which must not be subordinated to it, whatever their profits might be; profit is not the criterion, since the government must not sell candy, pepper and cumin!

AL-AHRAM: We are not engaged in putting the public sector on trial. While it is, as everyone is agreed, the pillar of the Egyptian economy, what is necessary is to search for the best means to develop it so that private sector and foreign investments will not devour it, in the words of Dr Sulayman Nur-al-Din. By virtue of its importance, it is certainly necessary that the public sector receive a broader opportunity than foreign investments and private companies. If you will permit me to say so, the privileges foreign investment enjoys are not just tax exemptions. They also include trained skilled labor at wages far below the world level, customs exemptions, and the free right to export and import, transfer currency abroad and obtain forms of energy at low prices, such as heavy fuel oil, electricity and so forth, even water. The production of foreign investment companies which obtain all this and other things does not cost a great deal; then they produce in massive volumes -- at low cost -- and export some to foreign markets, benefiting from their connections and relations, and sell some in the local market at a cost competitive with our products, and eliminate them for all the previous reasons! This is the essence of the matter. How will we face it? To state that the public sector sells pepper and cumin means breaking it up!

Dr 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Banna: Pepper and cumin are basic commodities. Fava beans, bean cakes and the products the companies for self-sufficiency in food sell are also such commodities.

AL-AHRAM: Indeed, these commodities are important to all Egyptian people. Then what are cookie and chocolate companies? Why should they be sold when they earn a profit? Why are they unimportant? Don't these companies produce numerous types of goods for children? Childhood is a basic stage which one must devote attention to and provide requirements for at reasonable prices. Don't the advanced countries distribute children's milk and food at the lowest prices? Shall we abandon these goods to the private companies so they can inundate the market, as is currently happening with their cookie and chocolate products, at high prices which I do not know how many people at this table are able to pay, and how often? Is this the problem of the public sector? Are these companies the /true/ picture of the public sector? Isn't the public sector a company like Iron and Steel, which has given up 2,000 experts who are bearing the burden of industry and progress in the whole Arab nation? In any case, what concerns us is to record your opinions, as experts and professors on the public sector, its relationship with foreign investment, and their role, together, in the domestic economy. Will we conclude by telling the public sector to give way to investment entirely? Shall we say that it is a pillar which must prevail and dominate? Shall we leave the two together, and if so, how? How can the Egyptian consumer, the person with the basic interests, not be harmed?

Dr Faruq Shaquayr: The public sector really is oppressed, as a result of the circumstances dominating it. If we deal with its relations with foreign investment, and what it should do to attract the investment and interact with it, we will find that foreign investment companies pick out certain companies in the public sector which are successful, and accumulate data on them, in fact on their leaders and the people working in them, before coming in to make a deal. Therefore the degree of development of competence in the sector is the first element attracting investors. In the latest Investment Authority statistics, we find that the proportion of foreign capital in accepted projects dropped markedly, starting in 1978, this indicates that Egyptian productive units have become stronger, since foreign investment companies bring in very ordinary technology, which represents their capital, and use all the other requisite elements from the Egyptian productive unit, thus forming new projects. While that makes us feel proud, it demands that we set up policy which will help us from giving benefits to investors just because they are bringing in technology -- rather, we ourselves must choose what we need and what we require. We have a very excellent industrial base, by the admission of foreigners, and we have technically competent people in the Egyptian workforce. This makes it mandatory that we set forth a new strategy for dealing with foreign companies and investors, because, when they deal with us, they are shrewder and cleverer.

Dr Sulayman Nur-el-Din: As regards the participation of foreign investment with public sector companies, I consider that that is desirable. The important thing is, by what formula will that take place? I reject the principle that a company should come in on grounds of technology and buy public sector companies after they are materially assessed. We welcome every foreign company which comes in order to take part with a public sector company in forming a new company, that is, a third company in which the two will participate together. This will bolster the domestic economy, and at that point, when the new company makes a profit, the public sector company will use its share to develop its basic output. Then there is another formula for cooperation: instead of having them come to us, we should go to them, outside Egypt. Why don't we go to form companies to provide the strategic materials we need, for example, the necessary "pulp" for our paper manufacturing companies and companies to provide meat, in order to realize self sufficiency in food and provide other things in the form of strategic materials or intermediate materials required by our factories, so that we can be assured of continuing to be supplied with them and not fall prey to the mercy of circumstances and monopolies? To comment on investment benefits and the manner by which they are granted, I agree with the view which holds that one must not deal with all investors and investment companies equally. It is unreasonable that a land subdivision company, for instance, be equal to the Iron and Steel Company, especially some foreign companies are trying to make fun of us. One of them came to obtain all the benefits on grounds that it would establish a plant in al-Dukhaylah to produce specific machines, then it became apparent that it was just a maintenance company. Is this reasonable? I am not against investment, but I am against investment companies draining the Egyptian economy, obtaining greater benefits and credit facilities than necessary from the Egyptian banking system, to an oppressive degree! These facilities must be under control and review! Finally, the new policy of the government actually proceeds from the premise of developing the public sector, and, to this end, the National Investment Bank was established. The second step is "establishment of an export-import bank" to cover the foreign trade sector and companies in it on economic bases, giving these companies in the foreign trade and cotton sector greater freedoms.

Participation of Workers and the Board of Directors

Mahmud Mahmud Fahmi: In attesting to the minister of economy's statement on the establishment of Egyptian investment companies abroad, this is possible, going by the stipulations of investment insurance agreements which we sign with foreign countries. They stipulate that we ourselves will enjoy the same benefits they enjoy here, although we have not yet used them and benefited from them. The agreements stipulate that foreign investment in Egypt should enjoy a prohibition of nationalization or expropriation, should have the right to hire foreign personnel, and so forth. So far we have concluded about 17 agreements with various countries which they have benefited from, but we have not benefited correspondingly. As regards the development of management in the public sector, this is very necessary, and the National Party, as an example of development, has recommended the guidance of workers; participation in the boards of directors, because current experience, which is 50 percent worker participation in boards, requires some guidance. We are not saying that workers should not participate - that is stipulated in the constitution - but that we should seek guidance from the experiences of others. In France, Germany and Britain, workers participate in management at various levels, participating for example in committees auxiliary to the board of directors, but it is not necessary that they belong to it. Likewise, it is not fair that investment companies enjoy benefits from which the public sector is deprived, and therefore we amended Law 32 so that its Article Six would give purely Egyptian projects, whether they be in the public or the private sector, the right to enjoy these benefits, except for one, that of transferring capital and profits abroad.

AL-AHRAM: This is as far as new projects go; why doesn't it apply to projects that actually exist, and existing companies?

Mahmud Fahmi: It applies to existing companies when they increase their capital. In addition, the modifications the government is studying now are aimed at unifying the laws governing the companies, and there are recommendations to develop the public sector in order to solve the problem of liquidity and their need for money, such as getting the bank to enter into companies as partners in proportion to the debts each company has with the bank. It is possible that this participation to the extent of the debts might be converted into bonds which are traded on the stock exchange; this would also work to stimulate their movement and revive the money market, at which point the public would agree to buy stocks offering liquidity. By the same thinking, why shouldn't the companies solve the problem of liquidity by offering a percentage of their capital -- 10 or 20 percent -- in the form of stocks and bonds on the stock exchange, and have people working in these companies or the public buy them? These and others are recommendations to make available fiscal liquidity which will enable the companies to renovate their equipment and develop their production. This is not an innovation. The Law on the National Investment Bank, which is 100 percent governmental, permits its general assembly, formed at a high level, and translates the general policy of the government of opening the door to private participation by individuals or companies within specific limits which will permit public capital to dominate. The same holds for the Import-Export Bank, which is in charge of an important sector, foreign trade and cotton. Finally, with respect to the responsibility of the public sector, and who will hold it to account, there is more than one alternative available. One is to

establish holding companies instead of the old system of organizations, whereby each holding company will contain a specific type of homogeneous company. Also at issue is the establishment of a high development and production council, on a basis where the holding company can possess capital without interfering in management. This is contrary to the role of the Central Accounting Agency and political and popular surveillance.

Fu'ad Abu Zaghlal: Among the examples of the joint public sector-investment company firms, there is a company whose chairmanship I have assumed, consisting of four companies operating in the iron, steel, and mining field and an Italian company with 45 percent participation, which is aimed at conducting research and studies on this activity and preparing the technical staffs required for it. In this we have been successful in obliging the World Bank to seek recourse to Egyptian experts for feasibility studies and research whereas previously it had imposed the condition of foreign experts. This has resulted in the saving of much money. I can give examples by stating that it is more necessary to support companies of this kind than investment companies which come to work and earn, then disappear - after their five or more years of exemption have elapsed, having transferred their capital and profits abroad.

Investment and plan Projects

AL-AHRAM: I believe that we need to hear some data on investment and investment companies and the fields they work in.

'Ala' Khalil: The most up to-date statistics we have are on projects agreed upon up to 31 October 1980. This shows that the total number of projects came to 933, of which 326 have started producing, 295 are under construction, and 202 have not yet been started. The good phenomenon is public sector cooperation. It contributed 28 percent of the total capital to foreign investment projects. In addition, it is from this sector that the technical and administrative staffs on which the investment companies depend have emerged; had it not been for the existence of Egyptian factories and productive units, the investment projects would not have been established.

AL-AHRAM: What type of projects are they?

'Ala' Khalil: Of the total projects agreed to, 556 are non-industrial, of which 108 are investment companies, 57 are banks, 107 are tourist companies, 53 are for housing, 93 are for contracting, and 22 are for consulting. There are 366 industrial projects, of which 43 are for textiles, 67 for food, 97 for chemicals, 13 for wood and others. (See the table.)

AL-AHRAM: My question was on the type of project, so that we could see whether or not they are integrated with Egyptian industries. Do they add to the domestic economy? Do they serve the Egyptian consumer? Here it is noteworthy that there are 43 textile industry projects while there are numerous Egyptian companies and plants in this field.

Is it better for us to grant facilities to this type of investment or to other types which will establish the industries we need?

'Ala Khalil: We sent a copy of every investment project presented to us to the competent government sector to study and ascertain its opinion.

Dr Kamal al-Janzuri: But that is a consultative opinion and is not binding!

'Ala' Khalil: the law gives the board of directors of the Investment Authority alone the right to agree to or reject projects.

Dr Kamal al-Janzuri: Among the examples of the textile industry there is a project which was rejected by the sector concerned, which stated that it would threaten our domestic industry; in spite of that it agreed to it. Dr 'Adil 'Izz was one of the experts who were delegated to investigate the matter and decided to reject it.

Fu'ad Abu Zaghlah: What is important, as our brother Mahmud Murad pointed out at the beginning, is that there be a clear plan and general strategy of the government. Does this exist? Dr Ibrahim Hilmi 'Abd-al-Rahman stated that frankly at the Alexandria Conference on Higher Management; he was minister of planning and most unfortunately acknowledged that there is no planning in Egypt; therefore it is necessary to spell out a strategy in the light of which one can define the role of the public sector, the private sector, foreign investment and what we want from it, because there is investment which represents a burden, not an addition, and some investors want to swallow up our industry, as in the Ideal story!

Dr 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Banna: I do not want to repeat what our colleagues said. We actually are planning to develop the public sector and divorce ownership from management, but we must not forget that we are in a period of transition to a new economic system. Let me add that all plans and projects, whatever their type, must essentially be preceded by infrastructure projects - roads, communications, transportation, and other facilities which are the basis that prepared for productive, tourist and other projects.

Projects Agreed to up to 31 October 1960 Which Have Started Production in the Country (value in thousands of Egyptian pounds)

Sector	Number	Total Capital		Total Investment Costs	Labor Employed		Wages Employed		Annual Value of Annual Production
		Local Currency	Foreign Currency		Egyptian	Foreign	Egyptians	For Foreigners	
Non-Industrial Projects	183	297,546	380,316	677,762	31,995	605	30,045	6,385	177,367
Industrial Projects	143	52,903	96,895	14,798	15,498	255	12,269	1,295	318,979
Grand Total	326	350,449	477,111	692,560	47,493	860	42,314	7,680	496,346

Projects Agreed to up to 31 October 1960, Total within Country (value in thousands of pounds)

Non-Industrial Projects	557	867,142	1,125,194	1,993,336	66,570	1,961	68,531	58,495	14,030	72,225	822,472
Industrial Projects	366	516,689	443,613	960,302	97,171	196	97,967	102,474	17,862	120,336	2,405,853
Grand Total	933	1,383,831	1,568,807	2,953,638	163,741	2,157	166,498	158,969	32,892	192,561	3,228,325

COMMENTATOR DENOUNCES CIA POLITICAL 'GROUPLETS'

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 Apr 81 p 1

[Article by S. H. Musavian]

[Text]

One year ago this time Moslem university students revolted against "penetration canal of the U.S." that is the university. By closing universities, they stopped the penetration of American culture in Iran's Islamic soil. Neither Islamic nor non-Islamic political groups were at doubt that "the system governing universities was one induced by the U.S. "The cultural penetration is the first recourse taken by Superpowers which precedes penetrations in the fields of politics and military proceeding toward a stage when they have free premises to plunder at will the wealth of a "nation". If a nation observes an independent and exhaustive culture, it cannot go under the scorn of "slavery" shoved in by Superpowers. . .

The biggest crime committed by American administrations and CIA was the "erasure of culture" of Iran. The salient executive in this regard was the university. The U.S. charted out the system of university in Iran in its own country and Americanized the youth of our nation. When these youths came to power Hoveida, Nassiri and Amouzegar - they committed all kinds of excess against their nation. After the revolution, our youths were not desirous of going to the "American slaughterhouse" that is the "former university" and dying under the surgical knife of the U.S. It was very natural for the Moslems not to go to the "slaughterhouse" but revolt against it and kill "the killer" in his slaughterhouse with the same surgical knife.

With this action, American keyed-dolls set about dancing to save their bosses from the slaughterhouse. American grouplets which had the "hottest" rumors with them suddenly "froze". They wanted a "single night" cancellation of relations dating back 2500 years. They shouted we must end "assembly" industry but when we closed down its theoretical source, they said do you want to change the university system? Their reason was whether the dependency could not be severed in one night!!!

They themselves were saying that the main cause for dependency was the university that could not create innovative brains. They accepted that "cultural dependency was more dangerous than imperialism itself. "Now, why did they change their face hundred per cent in action?

The reason is very clear. The U.S. knows that to fall any revolutionary government it had to nurture the strongest possible slogans against it avoiding the real misery of the nation. Till cultural dependency exists other dependencies will also exist.

Anyway the Moslem nation of Iran imprisoned "the U.S." in the American Shah: universities and the master of all plots CIA was silenced. Now that the cultural center has been formed and some universities are to open this academic year, the U.S. is restless at the revolutionary re-opening and has set a new plot. Hardly a few months away from the re-opening, nation-raking American grouplets have composed comical slogans against it. The American grouplets like "Unemployed", "Fedayeen Khalq Organization - Minority", "Path of Worker" and . . . have begun marches!!! This plot is in fact the follow-up of the main American plot to create "chaos" and "general crisis" at all cost in Iran. We do not forget whenever Iran was in turmoil due to CIA programs, the sharp-sighted leader of the revolution Imam Khomeini would steer Iran to its calmest period with the nation sensing a war situation.

At this juncture when the cultural revolution center is adamant at opening many universities this year, these CIA mercenaries are raising comical slogans and marches to create turmoil in Iran. In a current Fedayeen Khalq Organization statement there is no mention of struggle against the U.S. also radio America delivered a news about April 21st "before the statement could be published. After learning about yesterday's American Demonstrations, radio Baghdad offered sympathies to the demonstrators! This is natural and we do expect these things.

But, you CIA, the executive of all treasons against the Islamic revolution of Iran, learn that our youths will not come from the war borders to confront the plots in Tehran's streets. The Moslem nation of Iran is firm in flinging "Saddam" to the historical garbage and the American universities as well.

OFFICIALS DISCUSS MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY

Grain Agreements

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Apr 81 p 2

[Text] Tehran, April 28 (Pars)--Mr Mohammad Javad Asemipour, the General Manager of the Cereals Organization, held a press conference yesterday and gave some information on the issue of grain purchases from inside the country and foreign countries according to the capacity of the nation's silos and the amount of grain stored in the country. Mr Asemipour, referring to grain purchases from foreign countries said that, "there are plans to avoid purchasing the country's needs from just one country or from multi-national companies." He said that "in 1358 the amount of grain stored in the country was 211 thousand tons and the amount increased to one million and 59 thousand tons with the 100 thousand ton silo in Isfahan". Mr Asemipour also said, "We have agreements with the Soviet Union, that were made in 1974 for building 8 silos, and also, three with the Italians, 4 with Britain and 11 with Germany. Because the Germans and the British failed to fulfill their agreement and because these agreements were unilateral they were nullified but the Soviets have promised to finish 5 silos by the end of March 1982." Mr Asemipour said, "the Germans received 460 million rials for worthless lands and had not done any activities, but with the guarantees and savings that they have in Iranian Banks we can provide this money."

Mr Asemipour said that, "the agreements with the Germans will be nullified today and the one with the British has already been nullified, and it is predicted that with the completion of the silos the amount of grain in the silos will reach 1 million and 290 thousand tons and 361 thousand tons in the storage houses. The grain purchases from the Village Cooperative Organization in 1980-1981 was 437 thousand tons and the reason for the small amount of this purchase was the lack of security and problems concerning land that caused low productivity and therefore, Iran had to purchase 1 million and 945 thousand tons from foreign countries against 1 million and 445 tons in the preceding year."

Mr Asemipour, referring to internal transportation said, "There is coordination between all offices and organs and the numbers show that in second half of last year 746 thousand tons of grain had been off-loaded in the port of Bandar Abbas and this figure is twice the figure for the first half of last year. Also in the second half of last year, Imam Khomeini Port had off-loaded 94 thousand tons of grain which was much higher than the first half of that year."

[illegible]

Chlorophyll 60

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the inhibitor on the rate of polymerization of α -methylstyrene in the presence of SnCl_4 at 25°C .

[illegible]

10. The above-mentioned and stated that they have been with him since 1968, and that a small number of persons have been arrested since. He explained that the present situation is very serious, and that the government is not able to control the situation. He stated that the government is not able to control the situation, and that the people are suffering. He stated that the government is not able to control the situation, and that the people are suffering. He stated that the government is not able to control the situation, and that the people are suffering.

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These are the first steps in the process of creating a new business.

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10. In view of the above information, the undersigned is authorized to have signed and delivered the ~~above~~ above document and to execute the necessary documents in connection with the same.

11. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the said company at New York, New York, this 14th day of May, 1940.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

Secretary

• • • • •

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14. On the basis of the above information, the Commission has concluded that the proposed acquisition of the company by the applicant is in the public interest and that the proposed acquisition is in the public interest. The Commission has also concluded that the proposed acquisition is in the public interest.

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1. The Commission, in its report of 1970, stated that the Commission had received information from the Government of the United Kingdom that the Government was considering the possibility of introducing a new system of taxation which would be based on the principle of "poll tax". The Commission was of the opinion that such a system would be likely to result in a significant increase in the tax burden on the lower income groups of the population, and that it would be likely to result in a significant increase in the tax burden on the lower income groups of the population.

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Figure 1. *Phylogenetic tree of the 16S rDNA sequences of the 10 isolates. The scale bar represents 0.01 substitutions per site.*

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The following information is provided for the purpose of the above-mentioned information:

The following information was obtained from the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, regarding the land owned by the United States in the State of Nevada:

and the Government has announced that production will be 100 million barrels per day. The oil policy of the Government is to maintain a steady flow of oil to the market. The Government has announced that it will produce oil at a rate of 100 million barrels per day. The Government has announced that it will produce oil at a rate of 100 million barrels per day.

The Government has announced that it will produce oil at a rate of 100 million barrels per day. The Government has announced that it will produce oil at a rate of 100 million barrels per day. The Government has announced that it will produce oil at a rate of 100 million barrels per day.

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(LARGE DETABLES FORMED IN JOURNAL OF THE DAY)

Protocol on International Conference

Telegram TUDAN TIRIK in English 13 Apr 61 p 2

(Text)

TEHRAN - "Choosing the stand of Islamic Republic and, naturally, assuming the responsibility the Republic has from the international organization is what the main goal of participation in Manila Conference," said Representative Sayed Mohammad Khatami yesterday.

The two Majlis deputies, Khatami and Akbarzadeh Mohebbati, heading an Iranian delegation, yesterday evening left to participate in parliamentarian conference presently going on in Philippine capital.

The conference is attended by delegates from the Parliaments of more of the countries of the world.

Before leaving Tehran, Khatami told that Iran's participation also owed to the fact that "the Islamic Republic was always desirous of playing a more active role in the international arena."

But the Representative stressed that "participation in this conference does not at all

mean acceptance of the regulations existing in these organizations."

"Of course, we regard participation in such conferences as just and will endeavor to serve the nation. Our efforts will be to clear out of the current position, which is in fact a deception under various disguises, and to diffuse such a plan."

In another part of his talks, the deputy said "our efforts will aim at being in touch with Islamic Association and the people of that country, since they are the real people who count for us."

"And our duty will also be to raise their problems and defend their rights."

- Iranian Iran's another official, Mohebbati, hoped to make the subject of Islamic Revolution included in the conference agenda.

Islamic Republic is participating in this Asian-African (Parliamentary) conference for the first time upon invitation of the conference.

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 Apr 81 p 1

[Test]

TEHRAN - "Whenever the revolution reaches at its peak, the enemies launch actions by raising discordant issues," Supreme Court's Chief Justice Ayatollah Dr. Mohammad Beheshti said in his weekly press conference yesterday while speaking on conspiracies, including plots to sow discord between the Shi'ite and Sunni sects of Islam.

He said "our people are standing strong and upright in adherence to the beliefs of the revolution" and so such "the vicious and sacrificing enemy" will not permit infiltration of plots and enemies into its coordinated ranks in all spheres.

Ayatollah Beheshti was asked to convey his message for presence of people on the scene against the commencement of "the conspiracy of America, Europe, satans and mis-satans to deal a blow to and humiliate the system of Islamic Revolution, revolutionary forces and especially committed clergy."

The chief justice responded: "We have forwarded the 'documents' to mass media to be published for information of the nation."

"We have nothing that is hidden from the nation. With these tasks, the enemy wants to shake up the relation that exists between the people and the officials but the loyal and informed nation will diffuse and destroy all these deceptions and conspiracies."

"The nation should dif-

fuse these conspiracies with unlimited support."

"In 18 anti period, my million barrels of oil was sold daily and the budget lacked balance, but the Maktabi government of Razi succeeded to present to the Majlis the current year's budget without deficit despite huge expenses of the war imposed by the Heretic Iraqi regime," a reporter told the Ayatollah, asking "How would you evaluate and analyze this effort of the government?"

Beheshti outlined the duty of committed elements who should positively carry out the programming which is also supported by God, and said: "This action of Razi's government is the result of the assistance and striving of experts in government cabinet, the plan organization and ministry of economy and finance."

On "purchase of arms from France," the chief justice said: "Iran's political representative in Spain, who shoulders the responsibility of this task, is in Tehran and the judicial documents will be carried out."

On scope and intent of freedom and Islamic punishments in relationship with mass media role, Beheshti said that undoubtedly the nation wanted utmost freedom to be used to promote the original and maktabi line of Islamic Revolution.

"Wherever undue advantages are taken of the freedom,"

he however added, "action should be taken in accordance with the law."

The leader of the Islamic Republican Party (IRP) further said that the government and the Majlis are striving to approve and implement healthy laws in relationship with the operating procedures of the courts.

The IRP secretary general covered the so far promising implementations and work in the Supreme Judicial Council and said: "We are trying that the law of the Judicial Body be clean and devoid of any type of exploitation."

"We say with sincerity that substantial tasks should be carried out for growth and maturity of the Judicial Body," he added.

"Inflation is the conspiracy of the anti-revolutionaries," the chief justice said while speaking on the topic as well as on "the meagre salaries of the workers."

"In case and when the inflation problem is solved," Beheshti added, "the insignificance of the workers' salaries will be elevated."

The issue of re-opening of the universities will be solved with the efforts of Cultural Revolution authorities, Ayatollah Beheshti said.

"Outside of those standards and regulations of the Cultural Revolution Headquarters in the field of re-opening of the universities," the chief justice said, "no other regulations exist in this respect."

Mahdavi-Kani on Mid-Term Poll

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 Apr 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--The officials will "soon" hold mid-term elections in "big cities" and "those regions where there is no war" in a convenient process, said interior minister Tuesday, provided the president first okaya the election proposal.

Mahdavi Kani said, holding elections is subject to the prior approval of the president. "We are awaiting Baniadr's response... We hope if Baniadr sends us his agreement, we will soon commence holding elections and we are also prepared."

The elections which were held before, required to be carried out within a day but for mid-term elections such law or restriction does not exist, Kani informed.

"Of course, (in those regions) where there is war and elections cannot be held (there)," said the minister, "he (the president), according to the constitution, may propose to the Majlis and the Majlis may approve that these elections be kept in pending until the war is over."

CSO: 4920

MINISTRY OF ENERGY CONTINUES DETAILED PROGRESS REPORT

Part VII

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 21 Apr 81 p 2

[Text] The evaluation studies and researches on exploration of Uranium which is on the top of future energy resources list in the world, is profitable, considering the availability of resources in the country. Taking into account the encouraging results of work done, continuation of Uranium exploration plans should be prolonged, keeping aside the establishment of nuclear plants projects. The different stages of projects on uranium exploration taken by foreign companies, contractors and internal advisors had been executing in those Taghuti ways. After the Islamic Revolution of Iran all kind of activities were centered in the Organization and the unfinished projects were followed and implemented by the organization's specialists and with the help of God, the exploration plans were activated in north, west, Azarbaijan province, east, Nishabur, south of Jarmurian region and the central Iran, Anarak region and Saqand in previous and current year.

2. Esfahan Nuclear Technology Center:

During the second part of the previous year, our time and potential was expended in the establishment of relevant laboratories and putting them into operations. The manufacture of a trial plant and establishment of these plants with the generating power of 10 Mgw during the subsequent years, and putting them into operation for electricity facility, were the main goals of Esfahan's Nuclear Technology Center.

4. [as published] Security measures for radioactivity:

In the year of 1358 the Radioactivity Security Systems Unit, in view of environmental pollution by radioactive materials and employees welfare of the Unit and the other industrials and hygienic institutions, have executed various measures, comprising, visits on hospitals, hygienic institutions of the country, evaluation of applicants' documents who wanted to work with radioactive materials in the field of medicine, regulating and supervising of X-ray device in the medical and industrial centers and collection of radioactive residue in research and medical centers.

Cooperation with revolutionary foundations:

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, owing to existing staggering facilities in Bushehr and Ahvaz's nuclear plants and needs of revolutionary foundations, the Nuclear Energy Organization of Iran after frequent sessions and meticulous considerations with top officials in the energy ministry and the Construction Crusade turned over its machineries in Sistan and Baluchistan, Kohkiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, Lorestan, Kurdistan and Bushehr provinces to the Construction Crusade which were in the first rank of constructions. A total amount of Rials 30 billion, comprising mercenary, and construction materials have been given to the Construction Crusade through the Organization. In addition, the organization with the cooperation from Jihad-e-Bushehr invited 250 unemployed high school graduates and strikers (who staged a sit-in in front of governor general's office) to undergo technical trainings. After the training course they started working in the villages of the province. At present, another 30 high school graduates are undergoing different courses in various work shops in which production measures are being executed during their training courses.

It is to be mentioned that in regard to feasibility and essential profiting of work shops and constructional facilities in Bushehr and Ahvaz, nuclear plants, the master plan of Production and Technical trainings, offered by N.E.O.I. and the Coordination Council of Technical and Professional of the country, was approved through the former revolutionary council and it awaits its implementation in near future.

Part VIII

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 Apr 81 p 2

[Text]

Energy programming:

In connection with coordination and long-term plans in the field of energy in the country, measures are being taken to absorb relevant specialists. In addition researches on taking advantages from new energy resources, such as solar, wind and residue energies are in progress.

Most significant aids of energy ministry to the war-affected areas:

Now a mercenary, such as criminal, infidel Saddam, who has attacked the Islamic Republic of Iran which has been irrigated by blood of 170,000 martyrs and cripples, it is the responsibility of all to preserve the revolution.

The energy ministry has tried to provide all needed provisions and appoint expert personnel, the following concepts are a brief of services rendered so far:

- Repair of the Air Force's telecommunication systems.
- Installing and Commissioning of wireless systems in the Battle-fronts.
- Repair of loader, bulldozer, hydraulic excavator and tanks.
- Delivery of Helieh housing complex, comprising 290 residential houses.
- Delivery of heavy-duty generators to the Army.
- Delivery of different kinds of cables, screwdrivers and prefabricated buildings to war fronts.

- Manufacture of 3,000 spare parts, needed for transport vehicles and equipments.

- Establishing water and electricity facility for battle-ships and laying telephone lines for the Navy.

- Preparation of medical tents and operation units in war affected areas.

- Obtaining of drinking water by pipelaying and electricity facility and environmental control against pollution.

- Delivery of 442 vehicles, including trucks, vans, cranes etc.

- Delivery of a volume of 220 tons of medicine, rice, oil, flour, washing powders etc.

- More than 45 personnel of the ministry have been dispatched to various battle fronts who have been martyred and another 45 vanished who have been most probably arrested by the infidel forces of Saddam.

- Provision of 12,000 dishes of foods in the Organization's club in Khuzestan.

- Dispatching of 90 drivers for various affairs.

This is our goal and we wish that everyone in this country enjoys drinking water and electricity facilities and in this way the energy ministry's round the clock endeavors are witnessing the statement, but in the path of these achievements there are limitations and bottlenecks which nobody realizes or otherwise faces them. Therefore the following points are to be considered:

1- It was the policy of foreign powers to make us affiliated to them as much as possible and at present, even though work is being carried out in a slower tempo, it may not be left unknown that we are trying to erect our jobs by ourselves and we are hopeful that our brave countrymen will help us with their patience. Purchase of different devices and installations from aliens is very easy and people can be satisfied by their government but the martyrs of this revolution and this country certainly will not forgive us for this.

2- Projects and constructional plans are mostly long-term and also their good effects will be reflected in a long period of time, such an establishment of a power station with pipelaying network does occupy several years.

3- Shortage of spare parts is another trouble. In the past years, different installations used to be imported for a staggering amount of our wealth and used to be installed by the importers (aliens) themselves. Whereas, now, we have no inclination to import these kind of devices, hence we have to ready ourselves to face shortages so that works can be executed, however slow it may be, in some units.

4- The essential difficulty is the absence of a revolution in offices and in the level of offices in the ministry, owing to some employees who still have not yet adapted themselves in a revolutionary framework.

Part X

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 25 Apr 81 p 2

[Text]

10- Tabriz-Ziari's 400 kv-electricity project has had approximately 20 per cent advancement.

11- Tabriz-Mahabad-Orumiye electricity supply plan which in the nine months period of the year 1359 had about 5 per cent progress, and thousands of low-load transmission lines have been laid out in different cities and villages through the regional electricity boards.

E - The most essential measures in the region of maintenance:

1 - Conversion of turbines to gas-fire systems in Bandarabas power station in order to economise gas oil consumption.

2 - Repair of Karun-Arak's 230 kv-transmission line and installation of metallic protectors in the case of avalanche.

3 - Running of the gas-fire system power station of Chahbahar.

4 - Connection of the exit transmission line of Montaser Qem's gas-fire power station to a 230 kv of another system.

5 - Cooperation in running and maintaining of Ghoka factory's hydro power station.

6 - Transition of portable gas-fire turbine of Zaranj-e-Kerman to Abadeh.

7 - Installing and running the hydrogen factory complex of Loosan's power station.

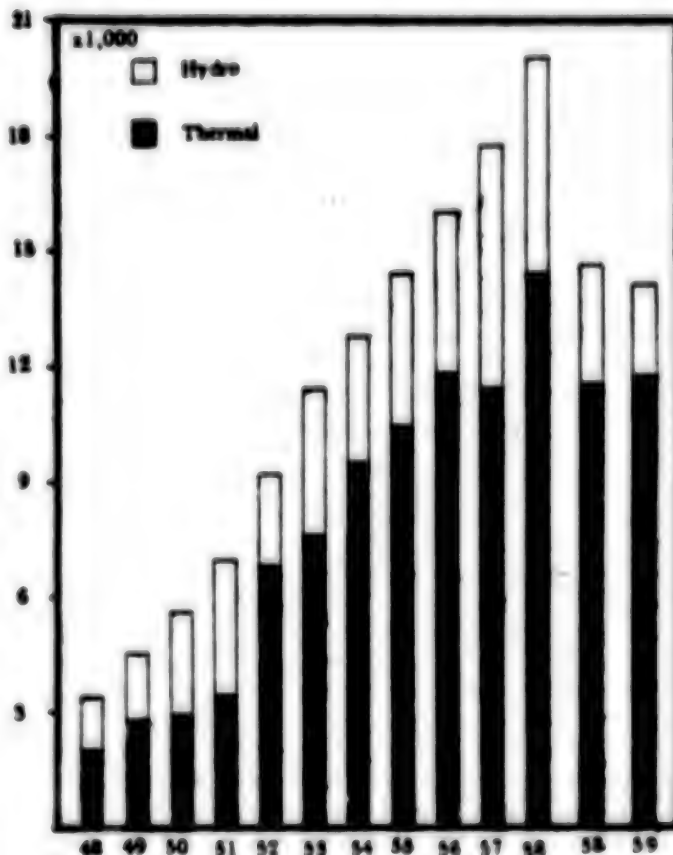
8 - Essential repairs and running of the boiler system of Mashad's power station (a 60 mw unit which has exploded).

9 - Programming for establishment of workshops in Tavanir company in order to manufacture the needed spare parts.

F - Rural electricity supply

Before the Islamic revolution of Iran the total electrified villages throughout the country were only 4,186 which, when compared to the total villages in the country (66,000) amounts to nothing and the annual growth of the measures were in a very low standard (200 villages per year in average). This important issue was put in the first stage of the ministry's execution of projects after the revolution and after meticulous evaluation studies, a master electricity supply plan for villages throughout the country was approved. According to the plan approximately 2,000 villages will be given electricity facilities. From

the beginning of works, the endeavours of the responsible bodies of the ministry were remarkable so that during the first 18 months, after the revolution, a total of 2,600 villages will be electrified.



Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Apr 81 p 2

[Text]

KERMAN REGION

- Dam construction project of Jiruft and hydro power station.
- Irrigation and drainage networks project of Jiruft's plan.
- Drinking water securing plan in the cities of Kerman province.

TEHRAN REGION

- Construction plan of Furghan and Mezlehgan's dam in Saveh.
- The second stage plan for the Taleghan's reservoir on Shahrood river.
- Lar's dam construction project and its lateral tunnel. The dam is able to store more than 960 million m³ of water from which 235 million m³ will be expended for agricultural affairs in Mazandaran province and 178 million m³ will be channeled to Tehran.
- Varamin and Garmsar irrigation network construction, comprising 71 km of the main canal, 251 km of the first and second degrees canals, 52 km of third and fourth degrees canals, construction of diverting canal in Kiv and Gonabad regions with the length of 240 m, establishment of diverting dam of Hableh river of Garmsar with the length of 120 m, digging and equipping of 110 wells, establishment of enrichment installations and measures, relating to desalination of waters.
- Water supply and irrigation network plan of Daht-e-Qarvin; approximate length, 135 km.
- Ground concrete reservoirs construction project.
- Reservoir construction plan and establishment of Saveh's purification plants.
- Canal construction plan of Yakhciabad measuring 1,060 m and erection of sewage network in the regions of Qeitarieh, Elahieh, Zargandeh, Tehran, establishment of two provisional sewage purification plants, digging of drainage canal of Firozabad and finishing evaluation studies of the first and second stages of Tehran city's sewage network.
- Underground water surface lowering project in the south of Tehran, including digging of drainage wells in Firozabad and finishing evaluation studies of the first and second phases of Tehran's sewage network.
- Underground water surface lowering project in the south of Tehran, comprising digging of drainage wells and revival of springs in the framework of which the green atmosphere and parks of Tehran city will be provided.

NORTH REGION

- Drinking water securing plan and development of water installations in Gorgan province.
- Water securing plan and prevention of salty water advancement in Daht-e-Naz.
- * One of the aims of this project was desalination of water, used for Daht-e-Naz's irrigation.
- Irrigation network construction plan of Gorgan province (Voshmgir's dam).
- Development and feasibility plan of Gorgan province's underground water.

(To be continued)

ENERGY DEEMED VITAL FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Apr 81 p 2

[Editorial by Jalal: "Energy Independence and Economic Advancement"]

[Text]

During the past week the Nuclear Energy Research Center has been playing host, somewhat incongruously, to an exhibition on alternative energy sources. Concurrently in the same site a seminar on the application of alternative energy sources has been holding sessions during the preceding week and is scheduled to conclude its work this Friday. Today and Friday are the last days of the exhibition which opens at 9:00 p.m. and closes at 2:30 p.m.

The displays on solar energy applications and bio-gas production, and all the work, research and creative effort which they represent hold lessons and promises for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the progress of its Revolution.

A considerable amount of blame for the economic dislocation of this country and the severe urban problems in its major cities must still be laid at the feet of the former regime which, in its eagerness to industrialize, displayed a contemptful and even destructive attitude towards the agricultural sector in the country and which concentrated its attention on developing extravagant industrial status projects in the urban areas. Between the indigenous technology and the sort of technology, which the former regime encouraged to be imported, such a gap existed that on the one hand there was little hope that Iran could ever service, or repair its imported technology without continual dependence on the foreign licensors of this technology, and on the other hand, nor could this technology be used to develop the rural sector to the same degree that it was able to raise the standard of living in the urban areas. The dreary results of this, and the competition of imported food items, was an explosive and unbalanced expansion of industries and services in the urban areas and the neglect and impoverishment of the rural areas. The villagers gradually have tended to move to the cities as unskilled labor and to disappear into the misery of life in the slums and marginal productivity. As the farms were abandoned this in turn accentuated the dependence on imported foodstuffs.

The key to economic independence and productivity must be self-sufficiency in the most elementary economic necessities, of which foodstuffs is one. If the former regime did not begin to look kindly upon agriculture, since agriculture was undramatic and modest, then it could have hardly been interested in developing solar energy or other alternative energy sources for they too are modest and unimpressive. That is, solar energy is not capable of running, say, a city or a battleship. However with the current technological and industrial level of development in Iran solar energy is well capable of immediate extensive applications in the villages, even if these applications are themselves small-scale. In this respect in the short term solar energy enjoys a practical superiority over conventional energy sources in the villages and remote farms in the rural areas. The villages and farms would not need to pine away and disappear waiting for the natural-gas network or electricity trunk line to finally be extended to their areas but rather in the meantime the quality of life in the villages could be immediately upgraded with little overhead cost to the villagers or central government. The practical applications of alternative energy sources not only could elevate the level of comfort and hygiene of the rural masses but could be directly employed in bettering agricultural production leading in turn to a higher standard of living in the villages and increased agricultural productivity and self-sufficiency on the national level.

A brief review of the on-going exhibition shows how all this is possible: There are four basic power sources displayed: 1) the parabolic reflector system, 2) the closed system solar heater, 3) solar electrical cells, and 4) a biological gas production system.

These projects were produced within the last 6 to 8 months by Iranian technicians from the private sector, from government institutions, such as the Materials and Energy Research Center and the Nuclear Energy Research Center, and also the Military Industries Group. Such applications, which are not costly to operate and which do not harm the environment, and which provide benefits such as desalination, waste-conversion, and refrigeration would promote both the personnel comfort and quality of life of the villagers as well as helping to promote agricultural production itself in the countryside.

While these energy sources cannot substitute conventional sources in the cities or the country as a whole they do offer rapid, easily-installable and economical energy sources for the countryside which would make life much more liveable and less hopeless in these areas thus halting, and possibly reversing, the tide of destruction and neglect which has afflicted the agriculture of Iran directly and the country's overall economy and economic well-being consequently. The systematic promotion of this existing technology would advance both the condition of the long-oppressed rural laborers and would help the country as a whole to achieve economic self-sufficiency and thus advance its Islamic and humanitarian goals.

SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES SEEN REDUCING IMPORTS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 27 Apr 81 p 2

[Interview with Dr Sattaripur, supervisor of Small-Scale Industries Organization; date and place unknown]

[Text]

TEHRAN, April 26 (Pars) - Dr Sattaripur, the supervisor of Small-Scale Industries Organization, said in the course of an interview "Before the revolution, the responsible officials did not pay sufficient attention to this organization, but after the revolution they came to understand its importance and realized that small industries should gradually grow into big ones. Hence, important steps have recently been taken to develop such industries particularly during the last six months."

While emphasizing the role of small-scale industries in the economic development of the country, he added, "With due regards to the flexibility of the production of these industries, they can contribute to blossoming of talents. They can greatly diminish the 240,000 items of goods that are currently being imported. Fortunately, the government has, to a certain extent, put necessary facilities at the disposal of this organization so that it can, in cooperation with other organs concerned, take steps towards self-sufficiency of the country."

Sattaripur went on to say, "These industries are provided for both by the cooperatives and the private sector. Investigations revealed that a banking system is necessary, so a committee, called the Joint Industries and Bank Committee, has been set up to grant loans to the Small-Scale Industries."

Concerning the planning for industries, utilization of resources as well as the production factors, he said, "In this connection four groups have been set up: (1) the Research, Planning and Projects Group, which studies the various fields and, if necessary, submits the prepared project to the applicant (2) the group that collects the badly needed scientific and industrial information as well as the relevant statistics at the provincial and national levels (3) A group dealing with the technical services and supervision, which submits the information about machinery and their installation to the applicants and provides them with the required assistance (4) the consultation Services Group, which acts in the field of marketing and distribution. It even establishes cooperatives, and gives financial and banking guidance, if necessary."

Sattaripur further said: "These activities have been initiated at least in 12 provinces. The centers have already started functioning in the provinces of Isfahan and East Azarbaijan."

Another field covered by the groups was the investigation of various fields in which applicants can invest, as well as the industries which are not necessary to establish either because there is no need for them or production is enough."

The Supervisor went on to say, "Among the programs of the organization is the conversion of medium-sized industries into small-scale one, which two desirable objectives: firstly, self-sufficiency; secondly, solution of unemployment problem. These industries must be developed to take account of the rate of growth of Iranian population. In order to further the objectives of the organization, a joint industries-banks committee has been set up which has been activated recently."

Regarding the delegations which went to India and China recently, he said, "The trips, in the course of which, industrialization problems of the two countries were closely studied, were held with India concerning technical information and joint studies about industrial development and some agreements were reached in certain fields as well. A bureau will start working soon for this purpose. Important steps have been taken for resumption of work of stagnant industries."

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PERSIAN GULF AREA

SCIENTS

JOINT PETROCHEMICALS RECLAMATION PROJECT--A joint venture between Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, has announced the award of a Bahrain dredging and land reclamation contract to Jan Oord (International) of the Netherlands. A twin methanol and ammonia complex is to be built on 600,000 square metres of reclaimed land on the east coast of Bahrain. The Dutch firm is expected to start dredging works in about three months. [Text] [London 0 1045 in English 18 Apr 81 p 38]

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PHENOMENON OF SOCIAL CHANGE IN SAUDI SOCIETY

Riyadh AL-RIYADH in Arabic 13 Apr 81 p 2

[Article by Turki al-'Ayar: "Field Studies for the Phenomenon of Saudi Social Changes. World Institutions and Specialized Organizations' Help Is Used To Determine the Causes of Change"]

[Text] The French Research Institute for Social and Economic Development (SEDS) [as published] has been commissioned by the (Saudi) Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to conduct studies on Saudi society. These studies, which include the phenomenon of change in Saudi society, are expected to be completed during the coming months.

That was announced to AL-RIYADH by Dr Yasini Salih Andar Qayri, under secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. He added that the ministry has authorized some British national institutions, such as the American institute and the British institute [as given] to conduct studies on a number of social issues connected with Saudi society. He said that by conducting such social studies and entrusting them to international social institutions reflects the progress made by Saudi society during the recent period. Further, in light of those studies it will be possible to prepare new social projects which will achieve comfort for the citizens and which will be provided by the government of King Khalid. In light of the studies to be conducted by the social affairs at the ministry along with the international social organizations it will be possible to establish the services which will provide social welfare for the various segments of society whether in the rural areas or in the cities. Such services will be done in a modern scientific fashion which will accompany the modernization that the kingdom is experiencing. He also said that social affairs at the ministry has already established (1) many social welfare organizations which provide tangible and significant services, such as the social qualifications centers, social service centers, and social advancement centers and (2) education and guidance organizations. He also added that the ministry will not stop at this level, but will expand all its energy and establish many of these projects in all areas of the kingdom in accordance with the available resources and [the results of] the social studies established for that purpose.

BRIEFS

SPECIAL SECURITY FORCES RECRUITMENT--The special security forces has announced it is accepting applications up to the end of April of 100 students holding intermediate competency and elementary certificate for entrance into the armored unit. The student must have Saudi citizenship and must not be under the age of 16 or over the age of 35. The period of study is 4 to 20 weeks, during which living and housing provisions and military uniforms will be provided for. In addition, a monthly bonus ranging between 650 to 700 rials will be extended depending on the qualifications. The student, after graduation, will also be accorded many benefits, including the monthly salary in accordance with his qualifications and which ranges between 2,670 to 4,267 rials. In addition the student, upon graduation, will be accorded 2 months' pay as well as the rank and the technical increase which will be in accordance with his academic level; and be given the chance to enter military and technical courses inside and outside the kingdom. The housing for the student and his family will be within the housing projects for the special defense forces; he will be accorded the chance to continue his civil studies. Also, the student will have an annual leave and gets to travel, along with his family, on the Saudi airlines to any place within the kingdom to spend his vacation. The student, also, after the length of the regular service, has the right to choose whether to stay on or to leave and will also be accorded the retirement allowances. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYADH in Arabic 21 Apr 81 p 2]

'ABDALLAH NASIF BIOGRAPHY--Dr 'Abdallah 'Umar Nasif, the director of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz University, received his preparatory and secondary education in Jiddah; his university education was at Al-Riyadh University, where he received his B.S. degree with honors in 1384 A.H. [1964-65] with a major in geology and chemistry. In 1391 A.H. [1971-72] he received his doctorate in geology from Leeds University in England. His career started in 1384/85 A.H. [1964-66] as a dean of Riyadh University and a teacher of geology in 1391/92 A.H. [1971-74]. He was then appointed as general dean of that university from 1393 to 1396 A.H. [1973-77]. In 1396 A.H. [1976-77] he was appointed vice president of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz University and eventually became president of that university in 1400 A.H. [1979-80]. One of his reasons for choosing to major in geology stems from his strong feelings of his country's needs in that field. [By Salih al-Zahrani] [Text] [Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 6 Apr 81 p 2]

COTTON PROJECTS FAULTED FOR DECLINING PRODUCTION

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 13 Mar 81 p 9

[Article by Hamid Muhammad Hamid: "Decline in Cotton Production on the al-Jazirah Project, and Abundant Controversy in the Scientific Conferences, Seminars and Fact-Finding Commissions!"]

[Excerpts] At Madani today, AL-AYYAM opens the file on Major Issue No 1, the decline in cotton production at the al-Jazirah Project and al-Manaqil, the largest, most gigantic farms in Africa which have become senile over the past 5 years. The wellsprings of production have practically dried up, while profuse controversy has overflowed to such an extent as to take the place of productivity. This controversy was the result of studies and deliberations by high-level agricultural conferences, specialized scientific seminars, and workshops to deal with the problem--treatment which ended with the issuance of recommendations and yet another conference.

The Current Season

The current 1980-81 growing season is now about to end, in early April 1981.

The question which crops up so urgently is: what was the use of the scientific conferences' studies and research, once their recommendations were drawn up?

The answer is: from our point of view, these conferences and meetings were never more than theoretical, academic attempts. Cotton production in particular is still showing a decline year after year, and the contagious decline may have spread to other agricultural projects.

Al-Rahd, Halfa al-Jadidah, and the former "Islah" agricultural production projects confirm these statistics.

Academic Conferences

During those lean years, the conferences, meetings and scientific seminars continued with their studies and research, which were ultimately drawn up in the form of recommendations leading to no practical benefit.

a fact, at these projects, especially the al-Jazirah project, until the end of December each year--i.e. after the passage of 3 months of cotton cultivation--the officials would affirm that the agricultural season was auguring high productivity on the following bases: the cotton was growing well, irrigation was regular, farming operations were good, and production inputs were outstanding.

But in January, when cotton harvesting would enter its early stage, some reservations would be issued; the officials were not sure whether the preliminary production estimates would be fulfilled.

In February of each year, notices would be issued to the effect that there were some negative points which might lead to a drop in production. Other reasons would appear one by one.

One theme would deal generally with irrigation water and cleaning the channels. Another would talk about a shortage of production inputs such as gasoline, insecticides, and herbicides, or at the very least would mention that aphids had appeared in some parts of the fields.

In March, they would issue statements to the effect that during the winter the cotton bolls had been exposed to temperature changes which had withered the flowers. Or, it would be mentioned apologetically that the cotton fields had been subjected to vicious, grievous attacks by flocks of livestock or animals prior to the announcement of release (the date of the end of cotton harvesting), and that these animals, estimated at half a million head, had caused vast damage to the cotton.

When at the end of March the season was at its end, another reason was given: there were not enough laborers to harvest the cotton, thereby affecting production. Thus the excuses became more numerous every year, and cotton production declined conspicuously.

The Promise

Last year, when talk about declining cotton production became more heated, the governor of the al-Jazirah project, after having previously affirmed the definite availability of resources, maintained that the average yield per feddan of long-staple cotton would be no less than 4 qantars, and that one feddan would produce 5 qantars of Ikala cotton. Tomorrow we will see. What we are afraid of is that no explanation will be issued for the statement that world cotton prices of US\$67 for long-staple cotton and \$27 for Ikala cotton have caused a drop in production!

Production Relations

In al-Jazirah and al-Manaqil, the growing season is about to end, and there is still talk about production relations, discussion of which was killed when Mr Rust's report was issued in 1968. Then came a report on the subject, as well as other studies. As one of the countless examples, there was the report by the agricultural sector commission in which several of the ministers concerned took part in studying and evaluating the production situation at the cotton projects over the last 5 years.

Then there was the report by the fact-finding mission set up by the agriculture minister, which toured the al-Jazirah, al-Manqil, al-Rahd and Halfa al-Jadidah projects and the agricultural organizations in the Blue and White Nile valleys.

Afterwards

We are convinced that all these studies, conferences and committees are no doubt marvelous, are doing a good job of the required scientific research, and are making the greatest possible effort, but this effort is not dealing practically with the problem.

We feel that the human element, whether at the apex of the al-Jazirah project administration, or in the cotton fields at various levels, or on the part of the farmers, is really the first and foremost basis for any rise or decline in production, since it has been proven that the state has the resources for the job, and in fact has spent an estimated 33 million pounds on insecticides. This is what brought the governor to make his promise.

As long as the state has the resources, any decline or deterioration in production is absolutely unacceptable, except for unavoidable cases, such as natural circumstances resulting from floods. This is something which has not occurred during this 1980-81 season. So that some calculations can be made in this context, let me give AL-AYYAM's readers the following figures on declining production. In 1968-69 the average yield per feddan was 5.212 qantars; in 1969-70 it was 5.042 qantars; in 1970-71, 5.411 qantars; in 1971-72, 4.984 qantars; in 1972-73, 4.001 qantars. Then there was a drop from 5 qantars to 4 and then to 3, and then to 2.8 qantars. Last year the yield was 2.5 qantars per feddan. In other words, production dropped 50 percent.

Summary

This problem requires a human field effort in which all parties will participate. Furthermore, we feel that coming up with a new administrative, organizational framework will only detract attention from the basic problem. Therefore, we present some indications on which we base our stand:

1. the effect of migration by capable farmers and their moving to other jobs;
2. ascertaining the healthiness of the cotton seed;
3. the effectiveness of supervision by agricultural inspectors and directors;
4. whether early morning irrigation is still in effect;
5. the role of the existing leadership of the al-Jazirah and al-Manaqil farms;
6. the role of the al-Jazirah project's board, the senior administrators, and the technicians in decision-making;
7. whether the production incentives which are announced are of any benefit;
8. the role of the agricultural research authority, which is responsible for the quality of the insecticides and seeds;
9. the reason for the drop in cultivated area from 1.85 million to 1.35 million feddans. Why does fallow, unreclaimed land amount to 850,000 feddans, when we are supposedly applying a policy of agricultural intensification?

NUMAYRI STRESSES NEED FOR NEW CENSUS

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 23 Mar 81 p 1

[Article: "New Census Planned"]

[Text] During its session yesterday morning chaired by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the cabinet gave preliminary approval to a bill for the third census, to be conducted in 1981, which was submitted to the cabinet by National Planning Minister Engr Naer-al-Din Mustafa.

During the session, the president spoke of the importance of the third census, and pointed out that there is a greater need for such a census now that the results of the second census conducted in 1973 are no longer valid.

His Excellency issued orders for a careful, comprehensive evaluation of the second census, in spite of its negative aspects, to make sure that those supervising the proposed census will make an effort to correct these negative aspects as they occur, thereby saving a great deal of time and effort.

He added that the results of this census will have many good aspects which we must make use of, to wholly or partially make up for the results of the second census.

His Excellency pointed out that the application of regional government is another incentive to expedite the proposed census, since once it is conducted, the central and the regional governments will be in a position to formulate their development programs and plans on a clear, constructive basis. This census will provide demographic and fiscal data on the population of a given region, providing a starting point for drawing up and implementing various development programs and projects, as well as enabling the central government to ascertain each region's capabilities and resources, which will help guide central policy-making.

When the national planning minister presented the 1981 census bill, he explained in detail its basic features, proposals for carrying it out, and the proposed financial costs of implementing the project.

It is worth mentioning that the bill calls for the formation of three committees on the national, ministerial and technical levels, and census committees for the regions and districts.

The bill's importance lies in the fact that the country is about to draw up a new economic and technical development plan to begin in 1983-84, which necessitates the provision of census data and socio-economic indices necessary to draw up the plan.

GRAIN AGENCY'S CONTRIBUTION TO AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DISCUSSED

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 10 Apr 81 p 4

[Article by Hisham Bashir: "Economic Evaluation of the Country's Seed Propagation Agency, Provided 350 Million Pounds Worth of Seed, Previously Imported With Hard Currency; Improved Seed Shared in Another 350 Million in Increased Production"]

[Text] Since the conversation was about the agricultural revolution, and the increase in agricultural production, the factors of this revolution should be known to everyone. They include the use of improved seed, fertilizers and insecticides, apart from excellent application of modern, agricultural means, organizations and advanced methods of agricultural direction.

World tests have proved that improved and advanced seeds are in the forefront of this agricultural revolution. Everyone knows about the huge increase in world wheat production, after international research centers developed the "Mexican" wheat seed, which yields on the average of 50 to 60 times as much, depending on the country involved. All of us also know that this seed was the object of astonishment, when it was cultivated for the first time in India and Pakistan, which were both able, to a great extent, to reduce their efforts to alleviate the wheat deficit.

I knew that, while I listened to Dr Farid Khuri, director general of the Seed Propagation Agency, as he explained to me the dimensions of the problem with wheat seeds, distributed by his agency and damaged as a result of storage, which we reported a while ago in detail, as well as the size of the problem, and how it was dealt with. I was aware of that, and did not think it a small problem, forgetting what this agency could offer, in terms of improved seed propagation and distribution to the farmers, as well as its contribution to a clear increase in agricultural production, and in cash flow, in hard currency, as the value of seed which the country used to import annually.

Because we watch over the negative side of any economic organization or activity, and call attention to how it is being handled before it becomes critical, while at the same time, looking for the positive side, and shedding a little light on what we discover, proving the public sector's worth and leadership of economic activities in the country, I asked this agency's director general the following questions: What is the economic evaluation of the activities of the General Agency for Seed Propagation, during the past 5 years? What is the extent of its

participation in agricultural growth in the country? How does the agency compare, mathematically, in terms of balance between profit and loss? Together let us read his replies to these questions.

The Propagation Agency, Five Years After Start of Operations

The director general of the Agency for Seed Propagation said: "Our agency was established in 1975, with the goal of improved seed propagation for various agricultural crops, which the scientific research centers in the country, and in the world, were proving could be capable of increased production within the acreage unit. We mean by propagation, producing these kinds of seeds in adequate quantities for the tillable areas of the country.

"During the past 5 years, we have been able to accomplish a large part of the tasks which have been put on our shoulders, as a developing, specialized agency. After the establishment of our general directorate in Aleppo, we opened branches in the principal agricultural provinces of the country, al-Hasakah, Dayr al-Zawr, al-Raqqa, Hamah, Hama, Damascus and Latakia. We also provided and equipped laboratories, as well as technical cadre, which we also trained through many local training courses, with the help of our national experts, assisted by experts from the International Food and Agricultural Organization."

Full Coverage of Improved Seed for Principal Crops

With regard to production and seed propagation, he said:

"We have been working in the area of production and improved seed propagation since the agricultural season of 1975-1976. We have concentrated on producing cotton, wheat, potato, and sorghum seed, and we added barley and bean seeds last year. Our production of these seeds has developed noticeably. Our production of wheat seed went up to about 24,000 tons in 1980, and potato seed to 8548 tons. Wheat production in 1976 was only 1485 tons, while potato seed was only 2000 tons."

He added: "Our agency, during the past 5 years, was able to produce the following quantities of improved seed: 118,000 tons of cotton seed; 104,000 tons of wheat seed; 28,000 tons of potato seed; 854 tons of sorghum seed; 55 tons of barley seed, and 14 tons of bean seed."

Economically, What Do These Production Figures Mean?

In order to answer this question, we should be aware that the average world price per ton of potato or wheat seed is 2500 Syrian pounds, 1500 pounds for cotton, 5000 for sorghum, and 3000 for both barley and bean seed. In light of these average prices, we can calculate that the value of the agency's seed production is 510,000,000 Syrian pounds.

If we leave cotton seed aside, since they were produced locally and not imported, we find that the agency provided the country with hard currency amounting to 334,000,000 Syrian pounds. Keep in mind that the costs of producing these quantities was not more than half this amount, estimated to be 167,000,000 Syrian pounds.

This means that the agency saved the country from paying out 334,000,000 pounds in hard currency, and in fact, provided 167,000,000 pounds over the past 5 years.

Our Production of Improved Seed and International Specifications

"The quality and specifications of the seed produced by our organization are equal to similar seed produced worldwide, according to annual scientific research results, and comparing our domestic production with similar imported seed."

This was stated by the director general of the Seed Propagation Agency. He went on to say: "Syria has changed from a seed-importing country to an export country. The best evidence for that is that, since 1977, we have exported wheat seed to Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the International Agricultural Organization in the region. We also exported 500 tons of potato seed to Libya last year."

"On the other hand, after a tour, which the International Institute for Potato Research organized with delegations of workers in potato propagation, in the Arab World and Middle East nations, the agency's propagation centers, located around the country, were considered the best centers in the region. It was also decided to train these nations' work forces at our agency in Aleppo. A Tunisian delegation will arrive for training with us in a few days."

Propagation Agency Seed Means 20 Percent Increase in Production

Dr Farid Khuri continued his economic generalization about the Propagation Agency, by saying: "Seed distributed by our agency, by all the evidence, yields a total production increase of more than 20 percent over ordinary seed. If we are aware that grain seeds distributed by our agency, used during the past 5 years and planted over 13.5 million dunums of land, and if we also know that the average production of ordinary seed is 200 kg per dunum, and of our seed 240 kg per dunum, then that means that our agency shared in increasing production of grain by not less than one-half million tons, valued at more than 350,000,000 Syrian pounds, whose profit was returned directly to the farmers and to the country's national income."

He added: "During the winter months, the country annually imported something like 10 to 20,000 tons of potatoes, to satisfy consumer demands, during this period each year. However, the agency, by providing autumn potato seed, and distributing that to the farmers, achieved a huge production of this crop, in both quantity and quality. Since the end of 1978, importation of eating potatoes has stopped, and the country has also been saved from spending that amount of hard currency."

If This Is the Economic Evaluation, What About the Mathematics Involved?

Dr Farid Khuri said: "This is the economic evaluation of the Seed Propagation Agency, which the economic agencies made on an international basis. As for the 'mathematical evaluation,' despite the fact that it was the furthest thing from our minds, our budget has an annual surplus worth talking about."

"Despite the fact that our agency's philosophy is to encourage the farmers to use improved seed, and to sell it at cost or less than cost, this is what we have been doing, especially with regard to wheat and potato seed, which

we distribute at prices below cost. Despite that, our agency's budget has achieved annual surpluses, of more than 5,000,000 Syrian pounds in 1978, rising to 6,000,000 in 1979, until it reached more than 8,000,000 pounds in 1980."

The director general of the Propagation Center ended his conversation with TISHRIN, regarding his agency's economic evaluation, saying: "Workers at the agency have proved their worth and competency during the past 5 years. The best evidence of that is that we produce and distribute without loss. Not more than 20 tons of potato seed produced by us, out of a total of about 78,000 tons, was lost, while the rate of loss permitted internationally, according to our guidelines from the competent authorities, is 5 percent of potato seed produced. This is the equivalent of 1400 tons, whose value would be about 2,500,000 Syrian pounds, provided as a result of our agency's efforts."

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CSC: 4802/660

STATE OF NEW YORK, in SENATE,

January 10, 1878, in SENATE OF NEW YORK.

[Editor: "These documents referred to hereafter shall be in English. We do so, though they were in the first place."]]

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BRIEFS

ARRAF ELECTRIC POWER STATION--The Ministry of Electricity has begun construction of a power generating station in Arraf, composed of two generating complexes, both capable of 170,000 kw per hour. The total cost of this project is 650,000,000 Syrian pounds. It is expected that the first complex of this station will be completed the first part of next year, and the second complex, some 4 months later. This station will be a reserve for all generating sources in the country, since it will be tied into the general 230v high tension network. It will ensure a new source of electrical power, in addition to the electrical balance, which some major industries in the coastal area will have nearby, such as the Tartus cement factory, and the oil refinery in Baniyas. It will also meet the energy demands in the coastal countryside, supplying the future agricultural industries. The Ministry of Electricity, in the last part of last year, set up the Mahrada station to generate electricity in the final, practical service of its two complexes, after taking them over from the implementing company. This station will generate the equivalent of two-thirds of the electricity generated by the Euphrates dam. On the other hand, the Ministry of Electricity has set the conditions for announcing the construction of a new generating station near Damascus, to fill the electricity needs of the southern region, effective in 1984. It has also completed a project to expand the Qatnah power station, to improve the electricity situation in Hama, and specifically to furnish the industrial area. The responsible officials are now pursuing several matters to increase the amount of energy in the country. They include a study to construct a nuclear energy generating station, and a feasibility study regarding all the available energy from water resources in the country, after putting the Euphrates dam power station into service. This would include a study of all small water resources, such as Shabab, Zayzun, al-Ash'ari, and al-Shabur, and a feasibility study regarding energy from rivers and seasonal floods in the coastal area. [Text] [Damascus AL-AZH in Arabic 27 Mar 81 p 4] 7005

CSD: 6802/640

TIGHTER CONTROL OVER COMMERCIAL AGENCIES RECOMMENDED

Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 16 Mar 81 p 2

[Article by Ahmad Muhsin: "Economic Committee of Abu Dhabi Advisory Council Demands Halt to Chaos of Commercial Agencies and Reorganization of Them; Remedying of Loopholes in Present Law With Intervention by the Municipal Authority"]

[Text] The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee of the National Advisory Council has asserted the need for a reorganization of the affairs of the commercial agencies at the state level in order to end the state of disorder and lack of control that is plaguing them and has caused official agents to be subjected to illegal competition.

In a report prepared for submission to the Executive Council of the state of Abu Dhabi, the committee stressed the need to involve all sides in an open dialogue on the reorganization of the agencies including federal government organizations, local organizations and representative commercial circles in the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The report said that during the preparation and issuance of the federal law to regulate the commercial agencies, the responsible officials should be aware of the existence of disparate interests among the commercial agents which differ according to their areas of activity and must be taken into account. For this reason, the local organizations in each emirate should be included along with the federal authorities in the reorganization of the affairs of the agencies.

Involvement of Local Organizations

The report explained that the purpose of involving the local organizations is to ensure stability for all the markets and take into account the individual interests of the agents in each area while maintaining the open market policy.

The report said that the local authorities must put an end to the state of disorder which has emerged because of a number of profiteers at the expense of the official agents who are authorized by their original principles and whose agencies are registered with the official registry of commercial agencies.

The report added that it is the original agents who must bear the burden of conducting the affairs of the agency with the costs this necessitates in order to provide the locations, facilities and distribution for the goods.

Therefore, it is not permissible for others to come along afterward and make easy profits without any of the burdens by hauling in the same goods from outside the area or importing the goods in order to sell them in the area and reap the profits despite the existence of the authorized agent.

Poor Regulation

In its report on the affairs of the commercial agencies in the emirate of Abu Dhabi, the committee noted that these affairs suffer from a number of deficiencies and negative factors.

Loopholes in the Law

It pointed out that one of the loopholes in the present law is the fact that there are no provisions dealing with the transfer to the agency from one agent to another without his consent, the cancellation of the agency contract prior to its expiration date, or the protection of the local agent within the boundaries of his area of activity from the infiltration of the same products and business with which his agency is concerned.

Therefore, the committee feels that there is an urgent need to expedite measures to alleviate the current state of affairs among the commercial agencies in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. It believes that this can only be accomplished through the intervention of the municipal authority in its capacity as the authority which is legally responsible for issuing the appropriate executive decisions and orders to end the state of disorder and lack of control plaguing the affairs of the agencies, correcting all the loopholes which have brought about this state, drafting the necessary restrictions to provide complete protection for the registered official agencies, and putting an end to the disputes surrounding the cancellation of the agencyship contract or the withdrawal of the contract from the original agent without his consent as well as ending disagreements over the determination of appropriate compensation in such cases.

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